Are There Readers on Your Gift List? Give Them a World of Enjoyment

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ARE THERE READERS ON YOUR GIFT LIST?
GIVE THEM A WORLD OF ENJOYMENT

DAYTON, Ohio — Whether it's a best seller or an out-of-print title, a book can be a
great Christmas present for friends and family members who like to read. They’re easy to
wrap, and there’s nothing to assemble.

James Farrelly, chair of the English department at the University of Dayton, says you
should be sure of the recipient’s taste before you settle on a book for a present.

Consider best sellers for adults, Farrelly says, including Where is Here? Stories by
Joyce Carol Oates, The Stars Shine Down by Sidney Sheldon, The Tale of the Body Thief by
Anne Rice, The Call of the Toad by Gunter Grass or Mexico by James A. Mitchner.

For kids on your list, take a look at The Snow Cat by Dayal Kaur Khalsa for ages 3 to
7, Boodil My Dog by Pija Lindenbaum for ages 5 to 9, Alice by Whoopi Goldberg for ages 6
and older and The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales by Jim Scieszka for ages
8 and older.

Edward Garten, director of libraries at UD, recommends Memories of the Ford
Administration by John Updike, “the most recent of John Updike’s prolific writings for those
who have enjoyed his books in the past.” For jazz fans, Garten recommends The Blackwell
Guide to Recorded Jazz, edited by Barry Kernfeld, a comprehensive look at the history of
jazz.
For aspiring poets or poetry lovers, Herbert Martin, professor of English at UD, recommends two new anthologies: *A Gathering of Poems* by Maggie Anderson and Alex Glidzen and *A New Geography of Poets* from Field, Locklin and Stelter.

Men who have taken the men's movement to heart may enjoy *Wild Men, Warriors and Kings* by Patrick Arnold "for its analysis of spirituality and masculinity," says Eugene August, UD professor of English. And "for sheer hilarity and outspokenness, it's hard to beat Asa Baber's *Naked at Gender Gap: A Man's View of the War Between the Sexes,*" he says.

For women who are concerned with women’s issues, *Composing a Life* by Mary Catherine Bateson is "very readable and very reflective," says Marilyn Fischer, assistant professor of philosophy at UD. She also recommends *The Beauty Myths* by Naomi Wolf, a book that explores the "unconscious conspiracy of institutions and businesses trying to keep control of women."

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